Energy production through wind mills

396. SHRI N. BALAGANGA: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that the energy production in Tamil Nadu is not sufficient to face the energy needs of the State;

(b) whether Government is having any proposal to increase the energy production of Tamil Nadu through wind mills in future; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government has been promoting commercial grid connected wind power projects through private sector investment in wind potential states including Tamil Nadu by providing fiscal incentives, loan from Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) and other financial institutions. Technical support, including detailed wind resource assessment to identify further potential sites, is provided by Ministryus Centre for Wind Energy Technology (C-WET), Chennai. This apart, preferential tariff is being provided to increase wind energy generatton in the potential States including Tamil Nadu. Wind power installation has been progressively increasing in the state of Tamilnadu, which has reached to 4,563 MW by October, 2009. Tamil Nadu is the leading state in wind power development in the country.

Chinese nationals working in power projects

397. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:
SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU:
Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware that the working of 30,000 Chinese nationais in various power projects in the country on business visa is against the norms;

(b) if so, the details of Chinese workers working in various power and other projects under his Ministry and since how long they are working;

(c) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has interceded in the matter and requested the Ministry of Home Affairs not to repatriate the illegal workers and requested to convert their business visa into employment visa; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI) : (a) and (b) As informed by Ministry of External Affairs, the existing Visa regulations, business visa does not permit nationais of other countries to work in India. In view of the significant number of foreign personnel, including Chinese nationais, coming for turn-key project contracts, the Government